

## You Never Get a Second Chance to Make a First Impression

Monica P. Bond, Dean of Curriculum and Instruction

### A New Look for the Crossing

**W**e heard your comments about our RCC Crossing publication and we took action. Roxbury Community College's Crossing has a brand new look! "First impressions tend to be lasting impressions" so is it any wonder that effective publications play a critical role in any college's success in developing its image. Since we only have one regular newsletter publication, "Crossing", it

has to do so many jobs, effectively. The Crossing must be used to recruit students, raise money, encourage alumni support and provide information for our internal community as well as for our various other publics. To do all these things and more, the Crossing must uphold the highest editorial standards, be interesting to its readership, provide accurate information about RCC and it must have design appeal.

President Brown charged a special committee of RCC staff and administrators with the responsibility for developing a new format for the Crossing. This new format is the impetus behind the development of the newsletter's content to be more inclusive of our college constituencies newsworthy accomplishments and activities and provide information about RCC of interest to our community at large. Our Publications Director was totally responsible for our new look. Together, we developed a new pre-publication's process that includes a form for submitting articles, deadline dates for article submission and follow-up forms to let you know whether or not your article will be in the next issue of the Crossing.



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In addition, the Crossing now has an editorial board responsible for soliciting, selecting and editing articles for publication.

We would like the Crossing to be a bi-monthly publication this year and we are interested in recruiting additional members for the Crossing's editorial board.

We have come a long way and our efforts reflect much work. In this issue, we have included an insert to get your responses to our new Crossing. Please be generous with your comments. The editorial board will acknowledge each and every response it receives. This is a great first step, however "it will take a village" to continue the development of the Crossing publication. It's up to all of us to expect and demand the best!

## **Who Said It Couldn't Be Done?**

David Fraizer, Director, Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center

### **The Inaugural Year for the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center**

*June 16, 1995 - June 30, 1996*

**T**he Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center has enjoyed a tremendously successful inaugural year. From the opening celebration to the high school track season to our summer camp schedule to our fall program, each program, event and function has been a complete success!

Beginning with the Opening Gala sponsored by the Roxbury Community College Foundation on June 16, 1996, the Center established a superb performance

level that has been consistently maintained for other distinguished events such as the National High School Track and Field Championships, The Hoop Dreams Educational Seminar, The Department of Youth Services Christmas party, The Higher Education Coordinating Council Annual Meeting and the 1996 Roxbury Community College Graduation.

Along the way, we've also played host for a number of neighboring high school and middle school athletic programs, including, the Timilty Middle School, Nativity Prep and Jamaica Plain Multi-Cultural High School Physical Education Programs. We have also provided much needed practice space for both the Madison Park and John O'Bryant High School Athletic Programs as well as all of our Roxbury Community College inter-collegiate and intramural athletics.

Our full scale High School Track season ran from November 26 through March 15, and drew teams and athletes from every town and school in Massachusetts. Not only did we host such prestigious meets as the Auerbach Foundation Invitational and The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association State Championships, but we





produced several very impressive state and national records during this season to include five national and state records.

During the summer, we offered a broad range of youth sport camps for interested children from seven to seventeen years of age. These camps ran daily from mid-July through summer's end and offered instruction in track and field, tennis, basketball and more. If that was not enough for the summer, we served as host for the City of Boston Youth Clean-up Corps, Summer Jobs Program!

All of this and we haven't even mentioned our Community Access Membership Program that has surpassed every projection imaginable. As of this writing, we have issued almost 1,400 quarterly memberships and we have maintained an average membership of approximately 500 persons per quarter, and growing. More importantly, although we have a very diverse, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic membership, more than 80% of our total memberships have been issued to residents of the Greater Roxbury Community. This is a testament to our stated desire to be both a service and a resource for our neighbors.

Clearly, it has been a very busy and exciting year at The Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center and, despite the challenges that this hectic schedule has presented, it is evident that our extraordinary efforts have been rewarded with both success and acclaim.

Certainly we are proud of our accomplishments to date. However, there is still much to do. Please be reminded that this is merely the beginning and the future holds even greater opportunities and the promise of progress. Also know that we do it all with you and we appreciate everyone's interest in the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center programs and events.

Finally, the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center salutes the accomplishments of our home athletic teams and we look forward to an even better year for RCC's athletic teams.

## Division of Nursing Education

Shellie Simmons,  
Division Chairperson, Nursing

### Update

This has been an extraordinarily busy time in the Division of Nursing as we prepare for initial accreditation by the National League for Nursing (NLN). Our accreditation site visit is scheduled in April, 1997.

All nursing programs in Massachusetts are required to have approval by the Board of Registration in Nursing so that program graduates are eligible to take the RN licensing exam (NCLEX-RN). This Board sets minimum standards to ensure safe practice by Nursing practitioners. The nursing program at RCC has always had full approval by the Board of Nursing, but it has never been accredited by The National League of Nursing which is the recognized national accrediting body that sets the highest standards for nursing education



photo: Nadine Dowling, Assoc. V.P.

programs. Application for accreditation by the NLN is an important step in the growth and development of RCC's Nursing Program.

Since participation in an initial accreditation for the NLN is new to the Nursing faculty, we really were not sure what was involved in the process, but we knew that curriculum reform was indicated. Our Nursing faculty spent countless hours over the last two years revising and refining the entire curriculum in keeping with NLN guidelines. Each nursing course had to build upon the other and increase in complexity to ensure that our graduates have all the values, integrated skills and knowledge needed to practice as Registered Nurses. In addition, our program is required to have and meet measurable program outcomes. These outcomes need to be related to the attrition and graduation rate, NCLEX-RN pass rate, job placement rate and employer satisfaction.

We believe that if students are admitted to our nursing program, there should be a good likelihood that they will be able to successfully complete the program and pass



the National Licensing exam on their first attempt. This opinion is shared by the NLN. Of course, given the academic and personal challenges that our students face, this presents very special challenges to the nursing faculty that they seem to be meeting quite successfully. We were thrilled that our 1995 nursing graduates attained an NCLEX-RN pass rate of 85% and we are equally thrilled with job placement statistics for our graduates.

This is an exciting time in the history of the nursing program at Roxbury Community College. We are cautiously optimistic and expect that this academic year will be one of great celebration as we meet the goal of accreditation by the national League for Nursing. In addition, we have two new initiatives we hope will further strengthen the nursing program for our students and improve retention. First, effective fall of 1996 our nursing students will be treated as a cohort group for academic support services and will receive kits designed by the Learning Resources Center and the Learning Center professional staff to encourage nursing students' familiarity with much needed resources, research skills and learning assistance services early on in their program. In addition, our plan is for nursing faculty and academic support staff to work in partnership to strengthen our students' academic performance and increase available resources in support of nursing courses' content. Second, academic support and nursing staff submitted a proposal for the enhancement of the nursing program through the development of an integrated multi-media resource lab. This enhancement project was funded by the state.

## **RCC Serves Students with Disabilities**

Linda O'Connor,  
Disabilities Counselor, CAPS

**M**ore students with disabilities are entering college, nationwide due to the enactment of special legislation (Section 504 of Public Law 93-112, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) to protect these individuals from discrimination on the basis of disability.

High school faculty and staff are required to identify and address disabilities which impact academic progress and provide appropriate programs and goals. However, when adults with disabilities enroll in college, it becomes the responsibility of the adult to identify a disability to appropriate college staff, to recognize learning strengths, to investigate the requirements of the program, and to participate in the selection of appropriate accommodations that will encourage successful completion of course requirements and program goals. In other words, while college staff through the enrollment process may identify disabilities, to include learning disabilities, we are dependent upon students with disabilities to volunteer this information and participate in making accommodations that will facilitate their access to services and instruction and encourage their academic success.

It is important to note that students with disabilities must meet the same course and program requirements as students without disabilities. Adults with disabilities should come to college saying "I can do this, but I need a sign interpreter for lectures, or books on tape, or special tutoring assistance for a learning disability or whatever accommodations seem appropriate." The college then makes these or other suitable accommodations to assist students with disabilities in achieving their goals.

Roxbury Community College has made great progress in its efforts to serve students with disabilities. Our buildings are equipped with automatic doors and elevators that make our buildings on campus accessible to students with physical disabilities. Many departments cooperate to provide special accommodations.

The TLC provides tutoring and specific study strategies for students with learning disabilities and with the assistance of our Computer Services Department, we plan to have a computer with reading machine capability. Tape recorders are available for recording lectures to assist students and our copy center has the equipment to enlarge print materials as needed for classroom assignments. Our Counseling and Placement Services office (CAPS) provides special counseling and our Athletic Center provides adaptive programs.

At RCC there is a spirit of support and genuine concern, campus wide, for students with disabilities. From the Dept. of Facilities that maintains the buildings and grounds to faculty who deliver the academic courses and programs to professional staff who assist through Counseling, and The Learning Center and Learning Resources Center services, we actively demonstrate our support for students with disabilities and look forward to continued growth and development of special services to better accommodate the needs of our students with disabilities.

RCC is where futures begin! Students with disabilities have been successful in completing degrees and gaining the skills and confidence to continue their education at other institutions or to enter their chosen careers. RCC alumni with disabilities currently attend U. Mass, Wheelock and Curry Colleges. One graduate is in the



process of opening a women's shelter and another is looking forward to a career in the computer field. For more information about services for students with disabilities contact Linda O'Connor, Counselor for Students with Disabilities in RCC's Counseling and Placement Office or Roberta Schotka, Manager of The Learning Center.

## The Latino Encyclopedia Project

Angel Amy-Moreno  
Professor of Social Science

### A Personal account of a Professional opportunity

In the Spring of 1994, I received a telephone call from Salem Press of Pasadena, California, inviting me to consider the

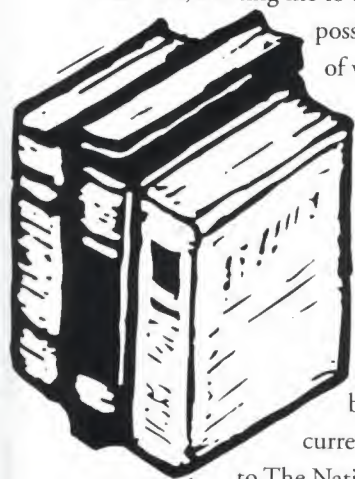


photo: Boris Tahmasian

possibility of writing several articles for a new publishing venture tentatively called, *The Latino Encyclopedia*. At first I hesitated because of my current commitments

to The National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship pertaining to historical research in Spain. In addition, I was in the midst of revising an article for another publication and this project, although very attractive, would distract me from my major current project — the NEH fellowship. As I listened patiently to the project's editor's description of his masterpiece, my interest in the project grew. It sounded like something that I had thought of accomplishing one day but not in the immediate future. He gave me a full-fledged prospectus of the encyclopedia and I was able to raise several concerns regarding

some of the topics under consideration, as well as some of the major contributors. Finally, I asked him to send me a list of the topics and the project's tentative deadline.

After a few weeks I received a listing which was very impressive since it was the first time in my career, that I had seen such a comprehensive list of topics covering almost every aspect of the life and aspirations of Hispanics/Latinos in this country. Very often, projects like this one have devoted most of their efforts to document only one or two subcultures under the great umbrella of the Hispanic culture. The listing was so extensive that it took me several weeks to decide upon my topics. Finally, I agreed to write about the following: A brief history of Photography in Latin America and the United States; A History of Fine Arts in Puerto Rico, and, A History of the Poster Art (*Carteles*), reflecting the major contributions of Latino/Hispanic artists both in the Caribbean as well as in the United States. In addition, I was entrusted with the task of writing two short pieces pertaining to Hispanics who have received either the Medal of Honor or the Purple

Heart during the last world wars. This proved to be a time consuming effort and, although I did my research, there were many unanswered issues regarding the rights of the veterans as well as incomplete lists of medal recipients that caused the editorial staff to drop some topics in order to avoid problems of inaccuracies.

After signing the contract, I spent most of the Summer, 1994 collecting the data needed for the articles. During the early fall, I started my first draft, which was followed by two more before sending the final copy to the editors. After receiving the manuscripts, an editor called me several times suggesting minor revisions. Upon completion of the work, Salem Press wrote me a memo informing me that they had sold their publication rights to the Marshall Cavendish Corporation of New York which would publish the encyclopedia at a later time. Again, I thought that this was the end of the project!

Finally, during the Spring semester of 1996, I received a confirmation that *The Latino Encyclopedia* had been published in



February, 1996. It is a six volume set, 1,821 pages, plus index. I am very happy to announce that as soon as I received the announcement, I contacted Tim DiPace, one of the Librarian's in RCC Learning Resources Center who helped me arrange to examine the final product. I firmly believe that this encyclopedia constitutes a major contribution to the history and culture of both Latinos and Hispanics in the United States of America.

I hope that our students and faculty/staff will benefit from its reading in the years to come. I have to acknowledge that this was a time consuming activity, but I am very happy to finally see it in print. In addition, I wish to add that the reason that I got a call from Salem Press had to do with my networking through the different organization which I belong to, as well as some server lists on the Internet. Please review this exciting project now on our shelves in the Library/LRC.

## Faculty & Staff In The News

### Dr. Andu

Gebremichael went to his country Eritrea on a full bright scholarship to help develop the curriculum for a new college of Health and Science, the University of ASMARA. Dr. Gebremichael taught Biochemistry, Immunology and did research on the cultivation of tropical mushrooms, the associate bacteria infection, gastrointestinal ulcer and more. He stated that his experience working on the curriculum committee here at RCC provided him with the experience he needed to get the task done.



Dr. Krysis Rodriguez while on sabbatical was engaged in research in Botany. Comparing different species of plants that exist in Puerto Rico and the coastal region of the United States( tropical plants vs. non tropical). Dr. Rodriguez's research was very fruitful and she intends to continue her interest in plant research through the operation of the green house at RCC this year.

Dr. John Salvage, Scott Benjamin and Dr. Ray Turner worked on the curriculum of Environmental Management & Pollution Prevention. Hopefully the curriculum will be offered this year. It was funded by the federal government and is part of a larger grant funded by the Environment Protection Agency.

Ruth Hines, after attending the Graduate School of Nursing at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, for three years part-time, received a Master of Science degree in nursing on June 2, 1996.

Her area of specialty was Adult Ambulatory Care, which educated Ruth to obtain health histories, perform complete physical examinations, diagnose, and develop and prescribe treatment plans for age groups. Her subspecialty area was HIV/AIDS, for which she received comprehensive classroom, clinical, and home care experience.

On June 15, 1996, Ruth took a six-hour Adult Nurse Practitioner Certification examination at Suffolk University. She successfully completed the exam and requested permission from the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing to practice as an Advanced Nurse Practitioner. Ruth is awaiting a letter from the Nursing Credentialing Center which will allow her to form a collaboration with a nearby physician for consultation and prescription writing purposes.

June Jefferson Randolph attended the Kellogg Institute for the Training and Certification of Developmental Educators this summer. *The residence portion of the Institute included three seminars: Assessment/ Placement, Teaching and Learning in Developmental Education and Academic Support Services for Developmental Students.* Now June has returned to campus to develop and implement a special project in Developmental Education.

In addition, congratulations on your appointment to Acting Division Chairperson!

## In and Around Campus

Tim DiPace, Librarian, LRC

You may have noticed the mural being painted on the entry wall of the Cafeteria in the Student Center. Tentatively entitled "Climbing" the collage composition's theme centers on the multicultural experience in the attainment of educational goals and in building a brighter future.

It is the first of two murals commissioned by the Student Government Association to improve campus aesthetics. The second mural, "A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald and Other Jazz Greats", is scheduled for development in the Student Recreation Room. Both murals will be executed by our artist in residence, Mr. Michael Thierry.

Mr. Thierry has a rich background in the arts, has completed undergraduate work at both Morehouse College and Massachusetts College of Art and currently has been accepted into a masters program at Boston University School of Theater Arts.

He believes in an interdisciplinary approach to the development of works of art and has been associated with the college since 1987 in various programs including the Roxbury Outreach Shakespeare Experi-





artist: Michael Thierry

photo: David Coleman, Chairperson, Humanities Dept.

ence, the Roxbury Repertory Theater Company, the New Beginnings Program and most recently the Summer Youth Program.

The summer program included another mural project entitled "Kids at the Crossing" a work of art created under

his direction, by the children and for the children, a multi-medium endeavor combining paint, soft sculpture and wood working which is scheduled for hanging/viewing in the Media Arts Building.

If you would like to see more of Michael's work, stop by the Riverside

Health Center in Cambridge, or watch for the children's book which he recently illustrated, entitled Nanny Tucket: Tales of Nantucket, due out this Christmas.



## Update on 1996 RCC Graduates

Holly Guran,  
Director of Counseling, CAPS

**G**raduates and those marching who were missing one or two courses were asked to complete a survey specifically designed for RCC graduates.

*Survey results indicated the following information:*

RCC graduates are attending the following institutions to obtain Baccalaureate Degrees and Certificates: Bentley, Bunker Hill CC (Cardiovascular Tech), Boston University, Clark University in Atlanta, Curry College, Lesley College, Mass. College of Pharmacy, Northeastern University, Simmons College, St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing, Suffolk University, Tufts University, UMass Boston, Wellesley and Wheelock. In addition, students indicated acceptance at UMass Amherst, FAMU, Georgia State University, UConn and Mt. Ida College.

Several scholarships were awarded to help students as they matriculate at transfer institutions. Full tuition and fees for two years went to The Boston University/RCC Scholarship recipients, Ronald Sadm (Math) and Sara Wolday (Biological Science). Dawn Fusi (Nursing) was the recipient of the Foster Furcolo Scholarship award at UMass Boston and Maricel Goris (Social Science), was the recipient of the Leadership Alliance Scholarship, Simmons College.

Sapers Scholars awards of \$2,000, combining loan and scholarship funds, were awarded to Edith Agudosi (Nursing, Simmons), Gertrude Ahamuefule (Nursing, UMass Boston), Eric Giordano (Nursing, UMass Boston), Jonna Holloway (Journalism, Curry) Irena Lisek (International Business, Northeastern), Orquidea Moncada (Social Science, UMass Boston), Gilda Pierre (Nursing, Simmons), Dave Sealy (Social Science, Suffolk) and Gillian Van Delft (Liberal Arts, Wellesley).

The UMass Amherst Community College scholarship, \$2,500 renewable until graduation, was awarded to Rozeltz Boyd. The Goodman Memorial Scholarship offered by the Mass. Society of Certified Public Accountants selected Nam Hoa Ha to receive \$500 toward matriculation at UMass Boston. Esther Corlett is a recipient of the Chancellor's Scholarship (full tuition and fees for two years) at UMass Boston, in Nursing. She completed LPN training after earning her Associate's Degree from RCC in June 1995.

*Congratulations Graduates!*

You are living proof that RCC is truly  
"Where Futures Begin"



## Athletics



### RCC Men's Basketball Schedule

Date	School	Time	Place
12/11/96	Mass Bay C.C.	7:00	Home
12/13/96	Bunker Hill C.C.	7:00	Home
12/21/96	Essex C.C.	1:00	Away
01/11/97	Naugatuck C.C.	TBA	Away
01/12/97	Naugatuck C.C.	TBA	Away
01/22/97	Northern Essex C.C.	6:00	Home
01/25/97	Norwalk C.C.	1:00	Home
01/27/97	U.Conn Avery PT.	8:00	Away
01/29/97	Quinsigamond C.C.	6:00	Away
01/30/97	Hessre C.C.	7:00	Away

#### Crossing staff

editor:

Monica P. Bond, Dean of Curriculum and Instruction,  
Tim DiPace, Librarian, LRC, with special thanks to  
Elizabeth Clark, Director, Student Activities and  
Lisa Jenkins, Admissions

design:

RCC College Publications



# Responses to the Crossing

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Please Note:

Please return your "Responses to the Crossing" to Tim DiPace, Learning Resources Center, Second Floor - Academic Bldg.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I liked it

2. \_\_\_\_\_ It was OK

3. \_\_\_\_\_ I like it but have the following recommendations

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4. \_\_\_\_\_ I didn't like it and have the following recommendations:

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5. \_\_\_\_\_ Your additional comments please:

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6. \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be on the Editorial Board of the Crossing.      yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ I would not like to be on the Editorial Board of the Crossing, however I would like to make suggestions for articles as outlined below:

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